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Federal Communications Commission

Attn: NPRM # FCC 99-6

445 12 Street, S.W.

Washington, D.C. 20554

APR 01 1999

FCC MAIL ROOM

Quin Corbett
11746 Penny Place
Bainbridge Island, WA
98110

Regarding NPRM # FCC 99-6, MM Docket # 99-25 & #95-25:

I urge you to adopt rules for licensing Low Power FM radio that prioritize the needs of underserved and under-enhanced communities. Your office has the power, and the power, to ensure that ordinary people can claim a piece of the pie that big corporations dominate and control. I am confident you agree that broad citizen access to information and culture is at the heart of a democratic society.

To support this vision, I urge you to legalize micro-radio with the following concerns in mind:

- 1. There should be completely non-commercial service. The current radio spectrum is dominated by commercial media; LPFM licenses should go to non-commercial community groups who want to use radio to communicate, not to make a profit.
- 2. Licenses should be held locally, be non-transferable, affordable to all communities, easy to apply for, limited to one per license holder, and not available to businesses.
- 3. Power levels should be up to 100 watts in urban areas and up to 250 watts in rural areas.
- 4. No secondary status.
- 5. Microbroadcast pioneers who have suffered government seizure and fines should receive amnesty, have their property returned, and be prioritized for new licenses.
- 6. Problems, technical or otherwise, should be referred to the local voluntary micropower organization for assistance or mediation. (eg the Ham radio model). The FCC should be the forum of last resort.
- 7. LPFM must be included in the future of digital radio.
- 8. If the FCC intends to license some commercial stations, which they should not, they must be licensed last. In this instance, there should be a two year "headstart" for non-commercial licenses. The right of citizens to communicate is protected by the constitution and the FCC's mandate. The right to make money thru local radio is not.

Thank you for your time and consideration of these issues. Free access to information is the most vital instrument for democracy. Commercial radio provides little towards free thought and information, which is what *public* airwaves should be used for. Thank You.

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